

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **McGee et al.**

Serial No.: **10/799,301**

Filed: **March 11, 2004**

For: **Method and Apparatus for
Maintaining Compatibility within a
Distributed Systems Management
Environment with a Plurality of
Configuration Versions**

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Group Art Unit: **2167**

Examiner: **Vautrot, Dennis L.**

Attorney Docket No.: **RSW920030263US1**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

36736
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE
CUSTOMER NUMBER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

No fees are believed to be required. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees which may be required to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0461. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and I authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0461.

Preliminary to the continued examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.